

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
2. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is at least 70% 80% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 over its entire length.
3. (withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.
4. (canceled)
5. (withdrawn) A method of treating a neurodegenerative disorder comprising administering an effective amount of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to the polypeptide sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 24.
6. (withdrawn) A method of treating a inflammatory disorder comprising administering an effective amount of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to the polypeptide sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 24.
7. (withdrawn) A method of treating an autoimmune disorder comprising administering an effective amount of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to the polypeptide sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 24.
8. (currently amended) A method for identifying a compound that modulates the activity or level of a Csp Calcipressin (Csp) protein, comprising contacting a cell comprising a Csp protein with a test compound and determining the level or activity of the Csp protein ~~or the level of a Csp RNA~~ in the cell, wherein a higher or lower level or activity of the Csp protein ~~or level of Csp RNA~~ in the cell contacted with the test compound relative to a cell that was not contacted with the test compound indicates that the test compound is a compound that modulates the activity or level of the Csp protein ~~or level of Csp RNA~~, and wherein said activity of the Csp protein is binding to calcineurin or inhibition of calcineurin.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the method comprises determining the level of a Csp protein, wherein a higher or lower level of the Csp protein in the cell contacted with the test compound relative to a cell that was not contacted with the test compound indicates that the test compound is a compound that modulates the level of the Csp protein.
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein determining the level of a Csp protein comprises using an antibody binding specifically to the Csp protein.
11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of 9A11, 25D6, 11E1, 16G5 and 3F4A.
12. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the Csp protein is a Csp1 protein.
13. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the Csp protein is a Csp2 protein.